

**From:** Doug Masson  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 8:46pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to write to register my objection to the proposed Microsoft Settlement. Individuals more scholarly than myself will have already informed your opinion, so I will keep it brief.

In light of Microsoft's past history with conduct remedies, any future conduct remedy (as opposed to a structural remedy) would have to have swift, vigorous, and transparent oversight. The proposed remedy does not provide for this.

Do not allow Microsoft the ability to hide behind ambiguous provisions ostensibly designed to protect their "security". In the past, Microsoft has been indifferent to security concerns (note the constant problems with Outlook). There is no reason to believe the company won't hide behind security as a pretense for not allowing interoperability.

Finally, the proposed settlement contains numerous provisions that could undermine the free software movement. Ultimately the free software movement contains the best hope for a competitive software environment. Anyone dependent on a profit to survive will ultimately be smothered by Microsoft as were the makers of Lotus, WordPerfect, and Netscape to name three.

Thank you for your consideration.

/s/Douglas J. Masson